

HARRIETSHAM TIMES

News from February 1915

Important Notice to the Civil Population in Case of Invasion

The Bearsted Division Emergency Committee has appointed the following people to coordinate residents in case of Invasion

Col Campbell, of Court Lodge, will be in charge of handing over of the 5 motor cars, 7 motor cycles, 31 bicycles and petrol from Harrietsham to the military authorities including the destruction of any remainder. Philip Cutbush, as Chairman of the Parish Council, will organize the handing over of all horses, mules donkeys and harnesses. Alfred Ambrose, of Bell Farm, will be responsible for the removal and destruction of all surplus livestock and food supplies and finally, William Young, of West Street will coordinate all volunteer labourers for trenching, tree felling, clearing woods etc. as directed by the military authorities.

In the event of Invasion a "State of Emergency" will be declared and those members of the civil population wishing to move from the district should ensure they have in readiness sufficient food to last for several days. Money should be saved and kept handy for buying further supplies of food. Boots should be in good repair as the population would have to move on foot for many miles and with clothing and blankets as you may be travelling both day and night. Empty barns and Cart-Lodges etc. will as far as possible be available. Special Constables will give information as to such buildings on route.

News from the AGM at Harrietsham Club

The Annual General Meeting took place at the club on Thursday 28th January when Mr. R. W. Ivens presided. Mr. J. H. Matthews presented the balance sheet. Owing to the war the finances have suffered, and many members are absent either at the front or under training in the new army or yeomanry. The usual winter games/competitions have in consequence been dropped, and the whist and crib drives have been curtailed. The prize money for such as taken place, have been handed over to funds for buying comforts and necessaries for our sailors and soldiers. It was agreed to keep the names of those who had joined the colours on the subscription list, as full members, during the time of their service.

Allusion was made to the severe loss the club had sustained in the death of their President, Major A. Buckingham while fighting in the trenches at the front. The secretary was requested to convey the deep sympathy of the members to Mrs. Buckingham.

News from the Front

Since our last edition the following have joined the army. Cecil Wemborn (Army Service Corps.) and Ernest Filmer (21st Lancers), Harry Hughes, having left the Royal West Kent, has joined the 1st Battalion of the Royal West Surrey and he is now with the Expeditionary Force at the front.